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Testimony for the House Judiciary Committee for HB 4098 to repeal the DRA, 11/18/09

Chairman Meadows and members of the Committee, thanks for the chance to testify.

The National Motorists Association (NMA) earnestly asks the committee to PLEASE report this bill out and recommend immediate repeal of the Driver Responsibility Act.

I testified for the NMA at the Transportation Subcommittee hearing on December 13, 2006 chaired by Representative Pearce. Four judges, the NMA, and several victims of the DRA law all pleaded with the Legislature to repeal this terrible law. Representative Pearce sincerely apologized for "creating a monster we need to fix". Representative Casperson "apologized for what the Legislature has done".

The Judiciary Committee Hearing in Detroit on June 19, 2009 received testimony from the NMA, the Judges, the U of M Law School, the NAACP, several Representatives and many more victims of this law. Everyone pleaded with the Committee to get the DRA repealed.

A series of Town Hall meetings this year all urged complete repeal of the DRA.

PLEASE just repeal this terrible law with HB 4098. Please do NOT take any of the half way measures, just try to get the DRA completely repealed.

It doesn't matter how broke the state is. We think Michigan should be ashamed to be raising revenue in this fashion from many of its poorest citizens.

I will be happy to take any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Walker